



University of the Pacific Scholarly Commons

John Muir Correspondence (PDFs)

1871-04-03

Letter from [John Muir] to [Jeanne C. Carr], [1871 Apr 3-8].

John Muir

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarlycommons.pacific.edu/muir-correspondence>

Recommended Citation

Muir, John, "Letter from [John Muir] to [Jeanne C. Carr], [1871 Apr 3-8]." (1871). *John Muir Correspondence (PDFs)*. 1369.

<https://scholarlycommons.pacific.edu/muir-correspondence/1369>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by Scholarly Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in John Muir Correspondence (PDFs) by an authorized administrator of Scholarly Commons. For more information, please contact mgibney@pacific.edu.

[A1]
New Sentinel Hotel,

A. G. BLACK, Proprietor.

[Apr 3-8, 1871]
Yo Semite Valley, 187

Sunday night I was up in
the moon among the luminous
spray of the upper falls, the lunar
bows were glorious & the music
God feel as ever. You will
yet mingle amid the forms
#28 & voices of this peerless fall.

I wanted to have you spend
two or three nights up there in
full moon & planned a small
hut for you, but since the
boisterous waving of the
rocks the danger seems forbidding
at least for you. We can
go up there in the afternoon, spend
an hour or two & return.

I had a grand ramble
in the deep snow outside
the valley & discovered one

beautiful truth concerning
Snow Structure, & three concerning
the forms of forest trees.

These earthquakes have
made me immensely rich
I had long been aware of the
life & gentle tenderness of the rocks
& instead of walking upon them
as unfeeling surfaces began to
regard them as a transparent
sky now they have spoken with
audible voice & pulsed with commo-
tion - This very instant just
as my pen reached the on the
third line above, my cabin
creaked with a sharp shock
& the oil waned in my lamp

We had several shocks
last night. I would like to
go somewhere on the West
South American coast to study
earthquakes. I think I could
invent some experimental

I had a grand ramble in the deep snow outside the valley and discovered one beautiful truth concerning snow structure and three concerning the forms of forest trees.

These earthquakes have made me immensely rich. I had long been aware of the life and gentle tenderness of the rock and instead of walking upon them as unfeeling surfaces began to regard them as a transparent sky now they have spoken with audible voice (and) pulsed with common motion. This very instant just as my pen reached and on the third line above, my cabin creaked with a sharp shock and the oil waved in my lamp.

We had several shocks last night. I would like to go somewhere on the west South American coast to study earthquakes. I think I could invent some experimental apparatus whereby their complicated phenomena could be separated and read but I have some years of ice on hand. 'Tis most enobling to find and feel that we are constructed with reference to these noble storms so as

[Apr 1872?]

I had a great deal to say to you in the letter to you

Letter 28.

2.

to draw unspeakable enjoyment from them. Are we not rich when our six foot column of substance sponges up heaven above and earth beneath into its pores. Aye we have chambers in us the right shape for earthquakes. Churches and the schools lisp limpingly painfully of mans capabilities, possibilities and fussy developing nostrums of duties, but if the human flock together with their Revs' and double LD shepherds would go wild themselves they would discover without Euclid that the solid contents of a human soul is the whole world.

Our streams are fast obtaining their highest power. Warm nights and days are making the high Mtn. snow into snow avalanches and snow falls. Violets blue, white and yellow abound, Butterflies through the meadows and mirror shallows reveal new heavens and new earths everywhere.

Remember me to the Doctor and all the boys and to McChesney and the brotherhood.

Cordially,

J. Muir.